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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF
INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES
AND PEOPLES

QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Letter dated 1 August 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee

With reference to the aide-mémoire 12/91 dated 31 July 1991 of the Special Committee concerning requests from persons as well as organizations to appear before the Special Committee as petitioners to speak about the so-called question of East Timor, I wish to convey the position of my delegation as follows:

The process of decolonization in East Timor has been carried out in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), thus terminating the colonial status of the former Territory. Consequently, the integration of East Timor into the Republic of Indonesia was formalized on 17 July 1976 as its twenty-seventh province with rights and obligations equal to those of the other provinces.

In view of the above, my delegation reiterates its view that consideration of the question by the Committee is inappropriate and would constitute interference in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of a sovereign Member State. Moreover, any granting of a hearing to any petitioner before the Committee would serve no useful purpose whatsoever.

My delegation, therefore, expresses its strong opposition to the participation of the petitioners in the deliberations of the Committee.

I would appreciate it if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Special Committee.

(Signed) Nana S. SUTRESNA
Ambassador
Permanent Representative